



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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TO: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Lead Administrators, Charter Schools

FROM: Sherry H. Thomas *SHT*

DATE: August 29, 2019

FOUNDATIONS OF COMMUNICATION

The Foundations of Communication professional development will establish and implement training and program support services to meaningfully improve the performance and success of students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (SCD) in North Carolina. SCD students are those students accessing the general curriculum through the Extended Content Standards (ECS). There is clear research evidence supporting the vast majority of students with SCD can communicate when research validated instructional and learning techniques are effectively employed. The goals of the Foundations of Communication training are:

1. Participants will define communication
2. Participants will identify evidence of communication attempts in students with low language
3. Participants will identify high- and low-tech forms of communication systems
4. Given communicative behaviors, participants will identify them as conventional or non-conventional
5. Participants will apply informal assessment to case studies
6. Participants will use assessment information to plan for instruction across the curriculum

The training for this course will be a blended model of adult learning which includes two face-to-face days. Participants will be expected to complete both face-to-face days in order to receive 1.6 CEUs. No partial credit will be given.

Please make sure those attending those who registered. Training materials are sent electronically to the email address listed at registration.

Date	Location
December 11-12, 2019 9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Craven County Board of Education 3600 Trent Road New Bern, NC 28562
March 12-13, 2020 9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Burke County Public Schools West Concorde Resource Center – Olive Hill Room Morganton, NC 28655

Space is limited to 75 participants on a first come basis. This training is intended for ECS teachers, Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs), teacher assistants, program coordinators and professionals working with students with significant cognitive disabilities. As best practice it is suggested an SLP and ECS teacher from the same school attend together. Please follow this link (or copy and paste it into your browser) to access registration: https://ncdpi.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Z5jNeCUdkRWIZv

Questions regarding this professional development may be directed to Perry Flynn at pflynn@uncg.edu, Maureen Kaniuka at Maureen.kaniuka@dpi.nc.gov or Matthew Martinez at matthew.martinez@dpi.nc.gov.

SHT/MM/de

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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